

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

# Memorandum

STAT TO :   
FROM :   
SUBJECT: Critique of Program

DATE: 31 July 1973

Although I have recently completed the processing necessary for conversion from contract to staff employee status, I have been asked to comment on this second summer as an Agency intern.

This has been a particularly rewarding summer. I am currently working in the USSR Division of FBIS, as I did last summer, but I am now involved in the analysis of the Soviet economy rather than Soviet political developments, as I was last year.

Far from finding myself idle, in due course I discovered that there existed a real need and a sufficiently large volume of work for me when I was reactivated on 15 May 1973. I found my new duties to be not only interesting but educational as well--a situation that obtained last year as well.

I have found my co-workers and immediate superiors extremely competent in their respective fields and always willing to lend assistance to each other and to novices like myself. I would especially like to mention

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for their assistance to me on several occasions and their willingness to hear new suggestions and implement those proposals they deemed worthy and beneficial.

Finally, let me say that I believe the Summer Intern Program to be of great value and I hope to see it expand during my career with

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Memorandum for:

Coordinator for  
Cooperative Programs

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Subject: Summer Intern Critique

Most of my comments in this critique are directed to the general administrative procedures I encountered in my coming on board, and about the briefings we were given over the months of June and July.

Since I had applied for a position with the Agency in early 1972 I was processed at that time and underwent very little extra processing this spring for the summer position. I would however comment that the processing time could be cut down. Last spring I spent four days here for various tests, of which time I probably spent no more than 12 hours in a testing situation or taking part in a physical exam. Two days I was done by 10 a.m.. This is not necessarily bad, it gives a person new to the area time to sight-see and become oriented, but it is probably at least one wasted day in terms of expense to the government. Several tests could have easily been scheduled for the same day since they were unrelated. I have indications that other interns felt this was the case also.

The total time involved in processing I cannot complain about because I was not too adversely affected, and I am sure the Agency would like to keep the time down as much as possible, for its own convenience. The date of acceptance for summer work should be made earlier. I was notified

in early May, which was before some others were notified. This was inconvenient in that it forced me to keep several other summer possibilities hanging rather unfairly.

In general I think the briefings we were given on Tuesdays were very well done. We were given a good broad view of many parts of the Agency and I think there can be no real complaints on this part. One may argue that certain things should have been included and certain things excluded, but this is largely a matter of taste. Some of the speakers were not terribly dynamic, but all were informative. It would be unfair to give the interns a slick song-and-dance program, which would give a biased view of the Agency. I would comment that it would have been nice to have started a little earlier if possible, or to have broken a little earlier for lunch, as sometimes I was dangerously close to starvation by the time we were released. The social hour in the executive dining room the first day was fine except that most of us were hungry by that time and one cannot drink very much on an empty stomach, hence one tended to leave early to go get dinner.

It was mentioned that this is the first summer that interns were assigned to OER. This has been from my view a very fine opportunity, and would be for any aspiring economist. I believe I was able to adjust reasonably quickly to the situation, and feel that I have been given a meaningful assignment and made a part of the office.

My time here is only half over so I cannot comment fully

on the work I have been assigned, but I am very satisfied that in no way have I been pushed into a corner and left alone. This is mainly due to the attention my Branch Chief,

STAT [redacted] and Deputy Branch Chief, [redacted] have STAT

been willing to give me and my project. I should also note that the analysts in my office and around OER were generous with their aid, especially [redacted] of STAT the China Division, who spent several days of his time assisting me with some computer work I wanted done. This enabled me to do several things and see some of the facilities available, that I would not have been able to exploit otherwise.

This fall I will return to VPI for more full time work on my PhD. My timing on the completion of my work there is uncertain, but I am definitely interested in a position with the Agency. I will request at this time another intern position for next summer as I expect to be available at that time. An assignment to a different division would probably be good experience to give me greater exposure to the range of research done in OER. It is possible, though unlikely that I would finish my work at VPI next summer and be available full time then, but it is more likely that I will complete my work there by the summer of 1975, possibly a little earlier. In any event I will be glad to keep you posted should the

Agency be interested in my services, which I hope it is.  
My Blacksburg address and Falls Church address are un-  
changed.



summer intern, OER

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